



PLAYER'S GUIDE

UMEZAWA'S ENDGAME

After Michiko Konda discovered her father's crime—the theft of a sacred *kami* from the spirit realm—her father's generals tracked her down and forcibly returned her to Eiganjo. They locked her high in the castle, far from her friends, without so much as the faithful Isamaru to keep her company. Michiko dedicated herself to studying the tomes in her father's holdings, trying to recall enough of Toshiro Umezawa's *kanji* magic to send him a secret call for help.

As the inconceivably vast serpent form of the *O-Kagachi* approached,
Takeshi Konda emerged from isolation. He addressed his people for
the first time in many years, much to their shock and confusion.
He told them that Yosei, the great guardian of Eiganjo, had been
summoned. The great white *ryuu*, the dragon of old, would defend
Towabara from the monstrous O-Kagachi. As he spoke, Yosei
indeed appeared, spiraling around Konda's towers. At the same
moment, two of the Great Old Serpent's eight fearsome heads
came into view, dominating the horizon.

No help could be expected from Toshiro. Unaware of Eiganjo's peril, he fled the wrath of Uramon, the godmother of the Numai crime network. After his refusal to do her bidding, Toshiro and his uneasy allies, Kiku and Marrow-Gnawer, had their hands full trying to lose or delay their nezumi pursuers. Their only hope was to seek sanctuary from Toshiro's hyozan brother, the ogre-mage Hidetsugu.

As Toshiro's foes closed in, he resorted to a desperate plan. He led them into a cursed place, the place where the *yuki-onna* preyed upon the living. Toshiro baited the cruel snow-woman spirit toward his pursuers. One by one, she froze his enemies solid . . . then turned on him and his friends. But at the last moment, bolstered by the power of the Myojin of Night's Reach, Toshiro used his kanji magic to contain the deadly kami. Later, he would unleash her devastation on another, more powerful enemy: Godo, the infamous *sanzoku* warlord of Sokenzan.

Illus. Ittoku

When Toshiro reached Hidetsugu, he found the ogre consumed with desire for revenge against Minamo for the death of his apprentice, Kobo. The *o-bakemono* had captured a number of *yamabushi* and tortured them until their wills had broken; they would be his strike force against the famous *jushi* school. Hidetsugu performed every blood rite he knew in preparation for his vengeance, and his master, the All-Consuming Oni of Chaos, grew hungrier.

Within days, two colossal battles raged on Kamigawa's most hallowed grounds. At Minamo, Hidetsugu and his yamabushi clashed with the ancestral guardian of the school, the great dragon Keiga. And, at Eiganjo, Yosei stood between the O-Kagachi and the daimyo's fortress. Yosei had little chance against the Great Old Serpent, the kami of all things. One of the O-Kagachi's immense mouths tore the white dragon in half. And, although Keiga fought valiantly, it was no match for six merciless yamabushi, each of whom had been trained in the ways of destroying creatures of the spirit realm.

Meanwhile, the Kami of the Crescent Moon watched with glee as the barrier between Kamigawa's material and spirit realms eroded. Its destruction was the path to autonomy and free will, which the kami had sought for so long. And, thanks to the Shadow Gate, a powerful relic stolen from Uramon, Toshiro Umezawa could transport

himself nearly anywhere in Kamigawa—including into the highest chambers of Eiganjo, where Michiko Konda waited.



Illus. Jeff Miracola

Eiganjo remained the focus of the O-Kagachi's endless wrath. Without Yosei to distract the monstrosity, only Konda's samurai stood in its way. The samurai of Eiganjo were the finest in all Kamigawa, but they were microscopic in the shadow of the O-Kagachi.

To complicate matters, the *akki* horde seized the chance to exploit Konda's divided

To complicate matters, the *akki* horde seized the chance to exploit Konda's divided attention, and they conducted a full assault on the Araba even as the O-Kagachi's form began to fill the sky.

Far away from the many eyes of the Kami of All Kami, the ogre-mage Hidetsugu earned his title, "Scourge of Minamo." With the guardian Keiga driven off, Hidetsugu and his yamabushi swept through the jushi academy in an orgy of vengeance. Few escaped.

The O-Kagachi bore down on the Araba, decimating all in its path. It swept away Konda's forces like ants. It shook Eiganjo Tower to the brink of destruction. Then, Toshiro made his pivotal move. He transported himself into Konda's sanctum and stole from the daimyo what the daimyo himself had stolen twenty years before: That Which Was Taken, the scion of the O-Kagachi and the manifest spirit of the veil, between worlds. Toshiro fled with the godchild. At that instant, Konda's protections fell away, but so did.

O-Kagachi's concentrated rage. The serpent turned from Eiganjo, seeking what it had lost.



The shinen reached its breaking point, and the tattered veil between worlds finally blurred beyond all definition. The spirits of Konda's fallen warriors rose up around him—a ghost army ready to obey its liege once again. The end of the Kami War was at hand.

Illus. Hideake Takamura



Michiko Konda

Perhaps no descriptor better suited Michiko Konda than the one used in jest by the nobles of her father's court: "raised by foxes." Michiko's mother died during childbirth, and her father, the daimyo Takeshi Konda, had long since locked himself away in the highest towers of Eiganjo. Although the *buke* of the court meant the fox comment as an insult, Michiko exhibited some of the best traits of her kitsune mentor and caretaker, Lady Pearl-Ear. She was patient, spirited, and, above all, compassionate.

Michiko came of age as the Kami War raged. Although she was protected from it, she knew that Towabara's people—and all living things in Kamigawa—were in danger. Despite her father's explicit orders, she left the safety of Eiganjo in search of answers.

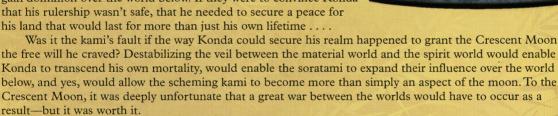
What she didn't know was that something fateful had occurred during the night of her birth, something that tied her destiny to that of a sacred kami. Her father had stolen from the spirit world the very child of the O-

Kagachi, the embodiment and guardian of the division between the worlds of mortals and kami. And as O-Kagachi's scion was shaped by Konda's crime, so was Konda's child, born the same night.

Kami of the Crescent Moon

Is it so wrong to want to be more than you are, to transcend your limitations? The Kami of the Crescent Moon was just one aspect of the moon, but looking down night after night on the material world, watching mortals sleep or gaze up at the moon, the Crescent-Moon Kami somehow grew jealous. He was privy to countless night thoughts, hopes, and dreams, and he wanted to have his own dreams, to aspire to something as mortals did.

It was such a little thing the Crescent Moon had done—he had simply suggested to the *soratami* prophets a way in which they could gain dominion over the world below. If they were to convince Konda that his rulership wasn't safe, that he needed to secure a peace for his land that would last for more than just his own lifetime





Maga, Traitor to Mortals

Minamo was abuzz with the news of the expulsion. Students whispered. "I hear he misused the divining room." "No, he read forbidden texts." Whatever the rumor, it was likely true. Maga was *not* a model pupil.

Maga's interest in wizardry led him to Minamo, and Minamo revealed to him his passion: the *oni*. Maga bent his studies toward oni, absorbing all he could about the demons of Kamigawa. The dark nature of his studies cast a shadow on his mind. He began to use the Minamo facilities for foul rites and dark communions. Minamo expelled him. But his passion grew stronger.

Maga took what he had learned and created a vile rite of bonding. He scored his flesh from head to toe and performed the ritual painted with his blood. The oni swirled around him, drinking the red away. Just before he slumped over, dry, white, and empty, the swirling oni poured into his wounds, filling him with tarry blackness, the very stain of divine evil.

The blackness coursing within him gave Maga a constant connection to the oni, and a bond to their evil designs. But his newfound power was overshadowed by the oni's dark influence upon him—a crooked bargain that earned Maga his title, "Traitor to Mortals."



Sakashima the Impostor

Of Sakashima the Impostor was said, "With guile so sharp, he cuts through vision and pierces perception." This master of disguise wore no disguise at all. His charisma and persuasive aura projected into the mind the very vision of that which he impersonated. But it had not always been this way.

As a youth, Sakashima enjoyed wearing masks and costumes, proving skilled at deception and mimicry. He relished the freedom of being anybody, or nobody at all. Always testing the limits of his ability, Sakashima posed as kami, stealing valuable sacrifices from the altars of men. The people were easily duped. The kami were not. Having made themselves known to him through nightmares and ill fortune, the kami demanded that Sakashima cease his deceptions. Instead, he improved them.

In secret, Sakashima honed his craft. As his talents sharpened, he walked freely among the *orochi-bito* and soratami. Eventually, he mustered the nerve and skill to pose as their leaders and ruled them. His final goal, to deceive even the kami, was long in coming, but ultimately attained.

"Speak no ill of Sakashima, for my ears could be his own."





"At the end of all things, she will be there—
to collect the last fallen leaves of Boseiju, to weave
them into parchment, to sit atop the highest
bough, and to record the final hours." Most folk
of Kamigawa embraced the truth of this prophecy.
They revered Ayumi for her timelessness, her
adherence to duty, and her calm. "She will record
the End, so its cause may be avoided when things
begin anew."

They were only partially correct. She would be there at the end, and she would do most of those things. But Ayumi was far from quiet, and the opposite of calm. The people of Kamigawa did not properly recognize her as a divine force of nature's might.

Like all kami, Ayumi was angered at the theft of the scion of O-Kagachi. Then, when the Kami War began, Ayumi saw an opportunity to "enlighten" the idealistic peoples of Kamigawa. How could they expect her to endure until the end of all things if she were as delicate as a noble flower or a passing breeze? She laid into *utsushiyo* like a tempest.

Tomb of Urami

The stuff of the spirit world was baleful and beautiful, cacophonous and choral. What it was not, however, was good to eat. The wispy forms and swirling visions of the *kakuriyo* lacked flavor, aroma, and meat-off-the-bone texture. And this is why Urami, Oni of Insatiable Hunger, turned away from the miserable fare of the spirit world and opened his watering mouth to the material world.

In order to create a never-ending supply of tangible, corporeal food, Urami struck a deal with a group of ambitious but weak-willed ogre-magi. Urami promised them forbidden secrets in exchange for free reign to consume all fruits of their lands from the lowliest grub to the mightiest predator, sparing only the ogres themselves. Urami never fulfilled his end of the bargain, though, opting instead to keep them in perpetual servitude.



In his service, the ogres constructed a gateway through which Urami erupted to feed, each time consuming everything within his reach. As is the way of things, nature replenished itself, but people—Urami's favorite snack—began to move away in hope of escaping the unknown evil. The ogres masked the gateway as a "tomb" and spread rumors of Urami's demise. Most people saw through the deception, but foolish morsels wandered too close often enough to spice up Urami's continual meals.

SHINEN AND VEIL BETWEEN THE WORLDS

In the many millennia before the Kami War, the denizens of Kamigawa gave no thought to a place called the spirit world. They believed that the kami lived in the material world—the only world that mortals knew. The kami existed invisibly and imperceptibly, blessing those who lived simple and devout lives.

Once in a great while, a kami would "make itself visible"—or so the mortal world thought. The result would be a glowing light deep within a forest of bamboo, for example, or a disembodied shadow on the ground at dusk. These fleeting manifestations bolstered mortals' belief and encouraged their shrines, offerings, and oblations.

But the truth was more complicated. The veil between the utsushiyo and the kakuriyo, the material and spirit realms, was complex and variable. Each world could influence the other: Kami grew more powerful based on the number of mortals who worshipped them, and mortals could draw power from the kami through arcane means or through strong faith.

In Kamigawa, every person, idea, and object had a kami, and the veil between worlds was no exception. In fact, the kami of the veil was perhaps the greatest kami of all, because without it, there could be no difference between flesh and spirit, between mortal and god. That kami was the Great Old Serpent, the O-Kagachi.

When the daimyo Konda extracted a kami from the spirit realm, he breached and destabilized the veil between worlds, incurring the wrath of the O-Kagachi and of all kami. More than that, the spirit Kondo extracted, which came to be known as That Which Was Taken, was itself an aspect of the veil, and thus a metaphysical child of the O-Kagachi.

The theft of this spirit granted Konda vast power and nearimmortality. With a piece of the veil itself in his hands, the differences between the two worlds were all but erased for him. And as the Kami War escalated, the veil became blurred for the rest of Kamigawa as well.

With each spirit that manifested in the material world, the veil frayed a little more. After many years of these small breaches, the nature of the divide between worlds began to change. Mortals began to wield arcane energies that were never accessible to them when the veil was intact. Spirits took shape in ways that seemed to ignore the difference between life and death.

It's not known whether the focusing of shinen was an accident or an innovation, but its use changed the terms of the Kami War forever.

Shinen, "spirit fire," had become a hallmark of danger during the early years of the Kami War, because it heralded the arrival of a spirit in the material world.

Whenever the veil between worlds was breached, there was a chance of flares of ectoplasmic energy. In the days of old, this energy was harmless, like foxfire. But as the war continued, the flares grew in size and intensity until they resembled raw mana, with the power to blind eyes, burn flesh, or taint minds.

In the last few years of the war, these flares of shinen took shape and intention. No one knows whether kami chose to make this happen, or whether it was a side effect of the disruption of

the veil. In any case, bursts of pure shinen began to pierce the veil, taking the same bizarre forms as the kami themselves. And, like spells, these fiery emanations had an immediate and often devastating effect on the mortal world.

A KAMIGAWA GLOSSARY PART

People and Places

Below are the meanings and pronunciations of some words you'll encounter in the Saviors of KamigawaTM expansion. For more meanings and pronunciations, consult the Champions of Kamigawa™ and Betrayers of Kamigawa™ player's guides.

Adamaro (AH-dah-MAH-roh) The feared kami of a famed human warrior who was consumed by his own

Akuta (ah-KOO-tah) A legendary kami of ashes and ruin.

Arashi (AR-ah-shee) The great kami of monsoons and typhoons, whose appearance was always accompanied by storms of shinen.

Ayumi (ah-YOO-mee) The kami who "reclaimed" abandoned places in the name of nature.

Erayo (eh-RYE-oh) A soratami woman whose meditations enabled her to transcend the material world.

Homura (HOH-moo-rah) A human monk whose meditations allowed him to grant the power of dragons to his allies.

lizuka (ee-EE-zoo-kah) A ruthless human ronin and leader who some said studied blood magic with oni masters.

Jiwari (jee-WAH-ree) The great kami of earthquakes, whose appearance was always preceded by waves of shinen. Kaho (KAH-hoh) The female human jushi who served as Minamo's historian during the first half of

the Kami War.

Kagemaro (KAH-gay-MAH-roh) The dreaded kami of the first human to be so evil that his spirit became an oni. Kataki (KAH-tah-kee) A legendary kami of retribution.

Kiyomaro (KEE-yoh-MAH-roh) The ancient kami of Kamigawa's first daimyo.

Kuon (KOO-ohn) An o-bakemono (an ogre) whose blood-magic meditations elevated him into the essence of pain and agony.

Maga (MAH-gah) A wicked human jushi rumored to be in the service of demons.

Masumaro (MAH-soo-MAH-roh) The once-revered kami of the first human to live by the ways of the kami.

Michiko Konda (MEE-chee-koh KON-dah) Daughter and sole heir of the daimyo Takeshi Konda.

Mikokoro (MEE-koh-KOH-roh) A sacred island of crystal that sits amid one of Kamigawa's seas.

Miren (MEE-rehn) A haunted well deep within Takenuma.

Oboro (oh-BOH-roh) The palace in the clouds that's the main home of the soratami.

Reki (REH-kee) The human monk on whose body the history of the Kami War was written.

Rune-Tail (ROON-tayl) A kitsune whose meditations enabled him to bless his followers with immortality.

Sakashima (sah-kah-SHEE-mah) A legendary human master of disguise.

Sasaya (SAH-sah-yah) An orochi female whose meditations enabled her to meld her life force with that of the forest.

Sekki (SEK-kee) The great kami of the turning of the seasons.

Soramaro (SOH-rah-MAH-roh) The once-respected kami of a famous half-human, half-soratami wizard.

Urami (00-RAH-mee) A legendary oni caged underground for centuries.

Things

bunrei (BOON-ray) A spirit created by dividing another spirit. Also, the ceremony of this act of division.

goryo (GOHR-yoh) The vengeful spirit of a mortal who died in anger or without the proper rites.

haru-onna (HAH-roo-OHN-nah) "Spring woman," a spirit-world creature in the form of a woman surrounded with burgeoning growth.

kemuri-onna (keh-MOO-ree-OHN-nah) "Smog woman," a spirit-world creature in the form of a woman shrouded in smog.

kirin (KEE-rihn) A mythical, otherworldly creature with aspects of a horse, a dragon, and a deer or goat. Before the war, kirin were omens of good fortune and long life.

kiri-onna (KEE-ree-OHN-nah) "Mist woman," a spirit-world creature in the form of a woman enveloped in mist.

manriki-gusari (man-REE-kee-goo-SAH-ree) A weapon that consists of a chain with a weight at each end.

meishin (MAY-shin) A fabled magic said to imprison others inside its caster's mind.

netsuke (NET-soo-kay) Miniature figurines carved from ivory, wood, bone, or other materials.

nikko-onna (NIK-koh-OHN-nah) "Sunlight woman," a spirit-world creature in the form of a dazzling woman. o-naginata (oh-NAH-gee-NAH-tah) A weapon that consists of a long pole with a huge, curved blade on its end. shinen (SHEE-nehn) Metaphysical energy, "spirit fire."

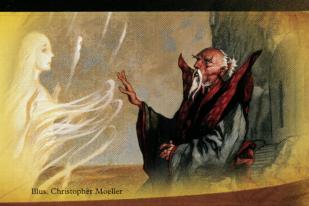
torii (tor-EE-ee) The distinctive Shinto archway, usually painted red, that indicates the entrance to a shrine or hallowed place.

yuki-onna (YOO-kee-OHN-nah) "Snow woman," a spirit-world creature in the form of a beautiful woman impervious

A WORD TO THE WISE

by Randy Buehler Jr., Saviors of Kamigawa lead developer

The Saviors of Kamigawa set wraps up our trip to Japan with a flourish. As you'd expect, the set is full of cool twists on the Kamigawa™ block's major mechanics. What you might not expect, however, are the bonus features—features like the "wisdom" theme (which radically warps the fabric of any Magic: The Gathering® game it shows up in) and the epic spells. Possibly the most powerful spells ever printed, the five epic spells are so strong that, once you play one, you aren't allowed to play any more spells for the rest of the game.



Smart & Smarter

R&D has been talking for years about doing a "hand size matters" set, and the Saviors of Kamigawa set turned out to be the perfect place to put all the

ideas we've been saving up. The more cards you have in your hand, the "wiser" you are and the stronger these cards get. To make sure games stay interesting, these cards work in a number of

different ways. Some of them (with playtest names like "Akki of Alexandria," after the powerhouse Library of Alexandria from the *Arabian Nights®* set) get extra abilities if you've got seven or more cards in hand.

Other cards scale their effects based on the number of cards you're holding. Perhaps the most exciting cards in this theme are the "ancestors."

This cycle of legendary creatures was inspired by the MirageTM card Maro—each one is like a Maro with an extra, color-appropriate ability.

While we were testing the Saviors of Kamigawa set, many of our favorite games involved a third type of "wisdom" card. Descendant of Kiyomaro and Okina Nightwatch, for example, get much better when you have more cards in your hand than your opponent does. This created a competitive mini-game within the game ("How many cards do you have now?") that strikingly changed how we played. It was weird but fun to realize that we were sometimes better off hoarding cards than playing spells. These playtest games often turned into funky hand-size races with each player making unusual game decisions. It was quite a change of pace to see normal Magic® strategies turned upside down.

Give Em a Hand

But hold on a second—if having lots of cards in your hand is the key to this new mechanic, doesn't blue have a ridiculous advantage? Blue is already the king of card-drawing spells. Add to that the Moonfolk, nearly all of which can bounce lands back to their owner's hand, and it looks like blue is the wisest color of all. The designers felt that this imbalance was unacceptable. Since they wanted the hand-size cards to be good in every color, they needed creative solutions to level the playing field . . . and that's exactly what they came up with.

One of these clever ideas happens to be my favorite trick in the set: Sweep. Sweep is a new ability found on four *Saviors of Kamigawa* spells, and it lets you radically change the number of cards you have in your hand after, say, your opponent blocks your seemingly innocuous Akki Underling. I hope you enjoy barreling down the Sokenzan Mountains as much as I did.



Illus. Greg Staples

There are a couple of other cycles that fit the same bill. One was derived from the *Visions*TM card Stampeding Wildebeests. (The green card in this cycle is actually a functional reprint of the Wildebeests, but it got a name change because there are no gnus in Japan.) Each of these creatures seems undercosted, but they have the drawback that you have to return one of your creatures to your hand each turn. Hold on—did I say "drawback"? That all depends. Do you want to boost your hand size? Do you want to get a creature's comes-into-play effect over and over? Do you want to bounce and play a Spirit every turn to repeatedly trigger your "spiritcraft" abilities? Then let the bouncing begin! As if that weren't enough, this is where the Onnas enter the picture. Yuki-Onna, Kemuri-Onna, and their kin all have both a comes-into-play ability and a "spiritcraft" ability that lets you bounce them back to your hand—which is right where you want them to be.

That's the Spirit

The Saviors of Kamigawa set is full of cool new toys to put into your spirit-world decks. The most exciting one is the channel ability, which interacts particularly well with the Kamigawa block's other spirit-world mechanics. Each creature with channel is a Spirit, so playing one will trigger your other creatures' "spiritcraft" abilities. Even better is how channel interacts with soulshift. Instead of playing a channel creature like a creature, you can use it pretty much like a spell—whenever you could play an instant, you can pay some mana, discard a creature with channel from your hand, and get a spell-like effect. When one of your soulshift creatures is about to die, that's the perfect time to channel a creature you're holding. Imagine the look of agony on your opponent's face as you toss a Ghost-Lit Raider into your graveyard—frying a creature on its way out—then return it right back to your hand when the creature with soulshift hits the bin.

The Kirin provide another powerful new tool to anyone who wants to harness the power of the kami. Each Kirin is a flying creature with a "spiritcraft" ability—and the power of that ability is directly linked to the size of the Spirit or Arcane spell you played to trigger it. What's better than playing one of the Champions of Kamigawa Dragon Spirits? How about stealing your opponent's Dragon Spirit for a turn while you're at it?

Larger than Life

The story behind the epic spells is epic in its own right. Brian Tinsman, the lead Saviors of Kamigawa designer, looked at all the legendary creatures, lands, artifacts, and enchantments scattered throughout the Kamigawa block and wondered aloud, "Hey! What about spells?" He had a point. We had legendary everything else, but where were the legendary instants and legendary sorceries? Sure, there was the tiny problem that they couldn't really exist. The "legend rule" can't apply to spells—since they're never in play, it makes no sense to say you can only have one of them in play at a time—but the basic idea of super-special, one-of-a-kind spells seemed immensely cool. The design team eventually abandoned attempts to extend the "legend rule" to apply to sorceries or instants, but they still

loved the *flavor* of legendary spells. They designed some suitably awesome spells, and their brainstorming on the flavor side of the concept led them to create the epic ability.

Whenever you play an epic spell, you get its effect not just when it resolves, but on every single one of your turns for the rest of the game. In exchange for this, you give up the right to play any more spells that game. Most of the time, though, it's worth it. Plus, as the epic spell dominates your game, you're not necessarily out of action. You can't play spells, but you can still attack with your creatures and play abilities . . . abilities like channel, which can do just about anything you'd want a spell to do.

All in all, we're very happy with the way the *Saviors of Kamigawa* set—and, indeed, the entire Kamigawa block—turned out. The flavor of this world continues to impress me, the art is awesome, and the mechanics are tremendously fun to play. Now comes the best part: We pass that fun along to you.

THE TEN COOLEST SAVIORS OF

1. Endless Swarm

Let's face it: During a Magic game, you've normally got a lot of options. The epic spells let you trade in some of your options for raw power. So . . . you won't get to play any more spells for the rest of the game. So what? When you play Endless Swarm, you get a ready-made Snake army—and then, at the start of each of your turns for the rest of the game, you get another slithery serving of swarming Snakes. Who needs other spells anyway?

2. Iname as One

Life and death: The circle is complete in Iname as One. Ignore, for a second, that this is a humongous creature in its own right. When you play this newfangled Iname, you pop an extra Spirit of your choice right into play from your library. And when this fusion of the Life Aspect and Death Aspect dies, its death brings back another Spirit from your graveyard to play. What a friendly guy!

3. Kagemaro, First to Suffer

No two see the same Maro. In this set, that's particularly true because you'll be seeing five different creatures based on the *Mirage* favorite. The most fearsome one is surely Kagemaro. Like the other "ancestor" Spirits, its size is equal to the number of cards in your hand. Unlike the others, it can wipe out all creatures in play at a moment's notice. Kagemaro may have been the first to suffer, but it won't be the last.

4. Tomb of Urami

Lands that turn into creatures have been popular since Mishra's
Factory back in the *Antiquities®* set. Tomb of Urami takes the
concept further than it's ever gone before. This appropriately painful
land can summon forth Urami, a legendary 5/5 flying Demon Spirit that sticks
around permanently. Sure, there's that small side effect where you lose all
your lands . . . but everyone knows that playing with Demons is not for
the faint of heart.

5. Homura, Human Ascendant/Homura's Essence

It's hard to pick which Ascendant is the most ridiculous, but Homura seems like a good candidate. This legendary creature's real power comes after it's been destroyed . . . when it automatically returns to play . . . flipped . . . as an enchantment! Homura's Essence pumps up all your creatures Dragon-style so that even the lowliest akki becomes a flying, firebreathing monstrosity. When your opponent is too scared to destroy your 4/4 beatstick, you're in fine, fine shape.

• KAMIGAWA CARDS

6. Twincast

Hail the triumphant return of Fork, in the color to which it always belonged. Blue has been dancing around this ability for years in the form of Mischievous Quanar and Uyo, Silent Prophet, and now it finally gets its own simple version of the classic card. Like your opponent's spell? You get one, too. Got a powerful instant or sorcery? Double it up. Amazing—blue just got even trickier than it already was.

7. Celestial Kirin

A 3/3 flying creature for four mana is good in its own right. Tack on an ability that turns the playing field into a demolition site, and you've got Celestial Kirin. Thanks to Celestial Kirin's "spiritcraft" ability, a card as simple as Candle's Glow can take a sledgehammer to Umezawa's Jitte, Nezumi Graverobber, and Eight-and-a-Half-Tails all at once. Just be careful with your own four-cost Spirit and Arcane spells, and bombs away!

8. Miren, the Moaning Well

Imagine that your life total is increased by the toughness of every creature you play. That's exactly what Miren, the Moaning Well can do for you. Is your creature about to die in combat? Sacrifice it for a refreshing burst of life!

Is your creature staring at the business end of a Rend Flesh? Convert it into even more life!

If you go through a lot of creatures each game, you'll certainly want to get Well soon.

9. Sakashima the Impostor

Shapeshifters have it rough in Kamigawa. If a Clone ever copied a legendary creature, both creatures would be sent to the graveyard immediately. That might be a clever way to knock off your opponent's best creature, but it's a lousy way to get a Dragon Spirit of your own. Enter Sakashima. Since it keeps its own name, it won't be affected by the "legend rule" when it copies a legendary creature! And if something better to copy comes along, you can return it to your hand to play it anew.

10. Jiwari, the Earth Aflame

Would you rather have an instant, uncounterable Earthquake or a hefty Spirit that can pick off your opponent's creatures one by one? Can't decide? Then have both. The king of the new channel ability, Jiwari can either clear the ground of all enemy creatures or make your opponents afraid to play any new ones.

One way or another, Jiwari will make them feel the burn.

AD - BU

SAVIORS of kamigawaw

CARD ENCYCLOPEDIA

The Saviors of Kamigawa Card Encyclopedia shows the entire Saviors of Kamigawa card set. To keep track of your cards, just turn to the checklist on page 23.

















































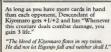












2/3













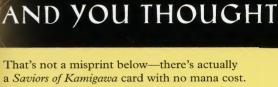












Evermind is the first card in the history of the game that can't be played! You can, however, splice it onto any Arcane spell you play to effectively turn that spell into a cantrip. The designers thought it would be a quirky little "outside-the-box" card that would make players cock their heads to the side and go, "Huh? Oooohhhh, I get it."

The challenge was executing the idea. The first problem was small but crucial. According to the Magic Comprehensive Rules, a card's color



















MUDHOLE WAS UNPLAYABLE

enough to make it blue, so Evermind got a line of text that hadn't been seen since the zero-mana red Kobolds were printed in the *Legends*® set back in 1994. (Note that this color-setting text gets spliced as well, so whatever you splice Evermind onto becomes blue, too!)

The biggest stumbling block was that players might not know how to handle a nonland card with no mana cost in the upper-right corner. We showed a mock-up of Evermind around the office. Some people thought the card was a misprint; others assumed it was free to play. We concluded that something in the text box had to clue you in to what was going on.

Our first attempt was a line that said, "CARDNAME can't be played." But, according to the splice rules, whatever card Evermind is spliced onto gets *all* of Evermind's text...thus, it would become illegal to play that spell! Oops. We finally hammered out the reminder text, and Evermind was ready to go. Keep it in mind the next time you claim that a **Magic** card is "unplayable"!



















Hail of Arrows deals X damage divided as you choose among any number of target attacking creatures

"Do not let a single shaft loose until my word. And when I give that word, do not leave a single shaft in Eiganjo." —General Takeno

- Anthony S. Waters

















When Iname as One comes into play, if you played it from your hand, you may search your library for a Spirit card, put it into play, then shuffle your library. When Iname as One is put into a graveya from play, you may remove it from the game. If you do, return target Spirit card 8/8









"It seems that each time I visit Lord Konda his guards are more on edge, perhaps even more eager for the war reach them."
—Masako the Humorless







Jiwari, the Earth Aflame

0/2



X, e: You may play a card with converted mana cost X removed from the game with Kaho without paying its

2/2















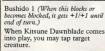












2/3





Legen	dary Creature Spirit	1
tought	aro, First to Stand's power and less are each equal to the numi n your hand.	
	g as you have four or more care Kiyomaro has vigilance.	ds in
Whene have so 7 life.	ever Kiyomaro deals damage, if even or more cards in hand, yo	you u gair



Kuon's Essence

KU-MU









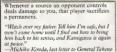












at peace."
—Michiko Konda, last letter to General Tak 2/2













2/1



































Plow Through Reito



































2, e: Draw a card if you have seven or more cards in hand.

The words from which language sprang, the knowledge from which thought was born, the story from which history was woven.

-- Dany Orizin



As long as you have more cards in hand than each opponent, Secretkeeper gets +2/+2 and has flying.

It is all the things that humanity was not meant to know.

Ron Spencer 2/2



Whenever a land comes into play, its controller puts a 1/1 green Snake creature token into play.

With a sadness and a sense of hope, Senka left the colony of her birth and, with her attendants, set out to serve as broodmistress, founder of a new colony.

Anthone S. V



Search your library for up to three bas land cards, reveal them, and put them your hand. Then shuffle your library.

"I've seen this great land from every angle. I know its every tree, stone, and river bend. Ut I have come to realize that knowing a th is not the same as healing it."

—Diary of Acusa

A CANADA

Shinen of Fear's Chill



0/0

Creature — Shapeshifter Spirit

Whenever Shape Stealer blocks
or becomes blocked by a creature,
change Shape Stealer's power and
roughness to that creature's power
and roughness until end of turn.

"Stand back. I hnow just what to da."

—Kith-Tilet, Mirror Breaker

Shape Stealer























2/3































of kamigawa

CARD CHECKLIST

WHITE 00

1 U Æther Shockwave 2 C Araba Mothrider

3 R Celestial Kirin

4 U Charge Across the Araba 5 C Cowed by Wisdom On

OB 6 C Curtain of Light

7 U Descendant of Kiyomaro Eiganjo Free-Riders 8 U

9 R **Enduring Ideal** o^{-}

10 U Ghost-Lit Redeemer ○□ 11 U Hail of Arrows

○□ 12 U Hand of Honor

13 U Inner-Chamber Guard

14 R Kataki, War's Wage OD 15 C Kitsune Bonesetter

○□ 16 C Kitsune Dawnblade

○□ 17 C Kitsune Loreweaver 18 R Kiyomaro, First to Stand

OD 19 R Michiko Konda, Truth Seeker

20 C Moonwing Moth on Ou 21 U Nikko-Onna

O 22 C Plow Through Reito

00 23 U Presence of the Wise

24 R Promise of Bunrei

○□ 25 R Pure Intentions ○□ 26 R Reverence

27 R Rune-Tail, Kitsune Ascendant

32 C Cut the Earthly Bond

33 C Descendant of Soramaro

35 R Erayo, Soratami Ascendant

Kaho, Minamo Historian

Minamo Scrollkeeper

Moonbow Illusionist

Overwhelming Intellect

Rushing-Tide Zubera

47 C Murmurs from Beyond

Kami of the Crescent Moon

Eternal Dominion

28 C Shinen of Stars' Light

29 C Spiritual Visit

BLUE

36 R

41 R

42 R

43 U

46 C

51 U

52 U

55 U

56 U

OI

00

O 45 C

00

00

00

OD

30 C Torii Watchward

○□ 31 R Cloudhoof Kirin

34 C Dreamcatcher

○□ 38 C Freed from the Real

40 C Ideas Unbound

Kiri-Onna

○□ 48 C Oboro Breezecaller

50 C Oppressive Will

54 U Secretkeeper

○□ 59 U Trusted Advisor

60 R Twincast

Ou 53 R Sakashima the Impostor

Shape Stealer

Shifting Borders

57 C Shinen of Flight's Wings

00 58 R Soramaro, First to Dream

Ou 49 U Oboro Envoy

○□ 44 R Meishin, the Mind Cage

○□ 39 U Ghost-Lit Warder

37 U Evermind

BLACK

OD 61 R Akuta, Born of Ash OD 62 R Choice of Damnations

00 63 C Death Denied

64 C Death of a Thousand Stings OI

○□ 65 C Deathknell Kami ○□ 66 C Deathmask Nezumi

OD 67 U Exile into Darkness

○□ 68 U Footsteps of the Goryo 69 U Ghost-Lit Stalker 00

○□ 70 C Gnat Miser ○□ 71 U Hand of Cruelty

OD 72 R Infernal Kirin

Ou 73 R Kagemaro, First to Suffer 74 C Kagemaro's Clutch

○□ 75 C Kami of Empty Graves Ou 76 U Kemuri-Onna

OD 77 U Kiku's Shadow

OD 78 R Kuon, Ogre Ascendant

79 C Kuro's Taken 80 U Locust Miser

81 R Maga, Traitor to Mortals

OD 82 U Measure of Wickedness 83 R **Neverending Torment**

00 84 R One with Nothing 85 R Pain's Reward 00

OD 86 C Raving Oni-Slave

OD 87 U Razorjaw Oni 88 C Shinen of Fear's Chill

Ou 89 C Sink into Takenuma 90 U Skull Collector OD

RED

00

91 R Adamaro, First to Desire

92 C Akki Drillmaster OD OD 93 C Akki Underling

Ou 94 C Barrel Down Sokenzan Ou 95 U Burning-Eye Zubera

96 U Captive Flame O

0 97 U Feral Lightning OD 98 U Gaze of Adamaro

OD 99 U Ghost-Lit Raider

○□ 100 C Glitterfang 00 101 U Godo's Irregulars

OD 102 R Hidetsugu's Second Rite ○□ 103 R Homura, Human Ascendant

○□ 104 R Iizuka the Ruthless

Inner Fire O□ 105 C ○□ 106 C Into the Fray

O□ 107 R Jiwari, the Earth Aflame

○□ 108 U Oni of Wild Places ○□ 109 C Path of Anger's Flame

○□ 110 R Rally the Horde

O□ 111 C Ronin Cavekeeper OD 112 C Shinen of Fury's Fire

OD 113 R Skyfire Kirin 00 114 U Sokenzan Renegade

○□ 115 C Sokenzan Spellblade O□ 116 C **Spiraling Embers**

00 117 U Sunder from Within

○□ 118 R Thoughts of Ruin ○□ 119 R Undying Flames

O□ 120 U Yuki-Onna

GREEN

O□ 121 R Arashi, the Sky Asunder

O□ 122 R Ayumi, the Last Visitor O⊐ 123 R Bounteous Kirin

O□ 124 U

Dense Canopy

○□ 126 U Descendant of Masumaro

Ou 127 C Dosan's Oldest Chant

○□ 128 C Elder Pine of Jukai

O□ 129 R Endless Swarm O□ 130 C Fiddlehead Kam

○□ 131 U Ghost-Lit Nourisher

O□ 132 U Haru-Onna ○□ 133 C Inner Calm, Outer Strength

OD 134 U Kami of the Tended Garden

OD 135 U Kashi-Tribe Elite

○□ 136 R Masumaro, First to Live

Ou 137 C Matsu-Tribe Birdstalker O□ 138 U **Molting Skin**

O□ 139 C Nightsoil Kami ○□ 140 C Okina Nightwatch

○□ 141 C Promised Kannushi

○□ 142 R Reki, the History of Kamigawa

OD 143 C Rending Vines

O 144 C Sakura-Tribe Scout

O□ 145 R Sasaya, Orochi Ascendant

○□ 146 R Seed the Land

Ou 147 U Seek the Horizon ○□ 148 R Sekki, Seasons' Guide

○□ 149 C Shinen of Life's Roar

○□ 150 U Stampeding Serow

MULTICOLORED

○□ 151 R Iname as One

ARTIFACTS

○□ 152 R Ashes of the Fallen

○□ 153 R Blood Clock ○□ 154 U Ebony Owl Netsuke

○□ 155 U Ivory Crane Netsuke

○□ 156 U Manriki-Gusari

○□ 157 U O-Naginata ○□ 158 R Pithing Needle

○□ 159 R Scroll of Origins

○□ 160 U Soratami Cloud Chariot ○□ 161 R Wine of Blood and Iron

(LANDS

○□ 162 R Mikokoro, Center of the Sea

○□ 163 R Miren, the Moaning Well

Ou 164 R Oboro, Palace in the Clouds Ou 165 R Tomb of Urami

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O = Regular card

 \Box = Premium card C = Common

U = Uncommon

R = Rare

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